

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The frame part 31a is also provided with a outrigger 37, on which a support 34 with a passage slit 36 for a zipper strip 25 is arranged. Furthermore idle support rolls 35a and 35b are provided on the ~~passage 36~~ support 34, for guiding the zipper strip 25 in the supply. The machine 1 may further be provided with means for keeping the strip 25 tensionless, so that sufficient supply length is available for the device 11, without the zipper strip 25 having to be pulled from a stock roll by the device 11 itself.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--As can be seen in figure 5A, the pre-seal station ~~[[18]]~~ 12 is situated at a short distance above the zipper strip applicator device 11. The pre-seal device ~~[[18]]~~ 12 is provided with a holder 81, in which a pre-seal rod 82 is accommodated.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--~~At the in~~ In relation to the process direction C upstream side of the bands 43 and 44, a strip 45 is attached to

the frame part 31a, which is provided with regularly spaced apart protrusions 46. The protrusions 46 are designed to engage between the strips forming the zipper strip 25, provided with male and female parts of the coupling respectively, extending up to said male and female parts, and keeping the zipper strips stretched particularly in the horizontal plane during transport of the zipper strip, the friction being minimized by the recesses between the teeth 46. Reference can also be made to the cross-section according to figure 6.--